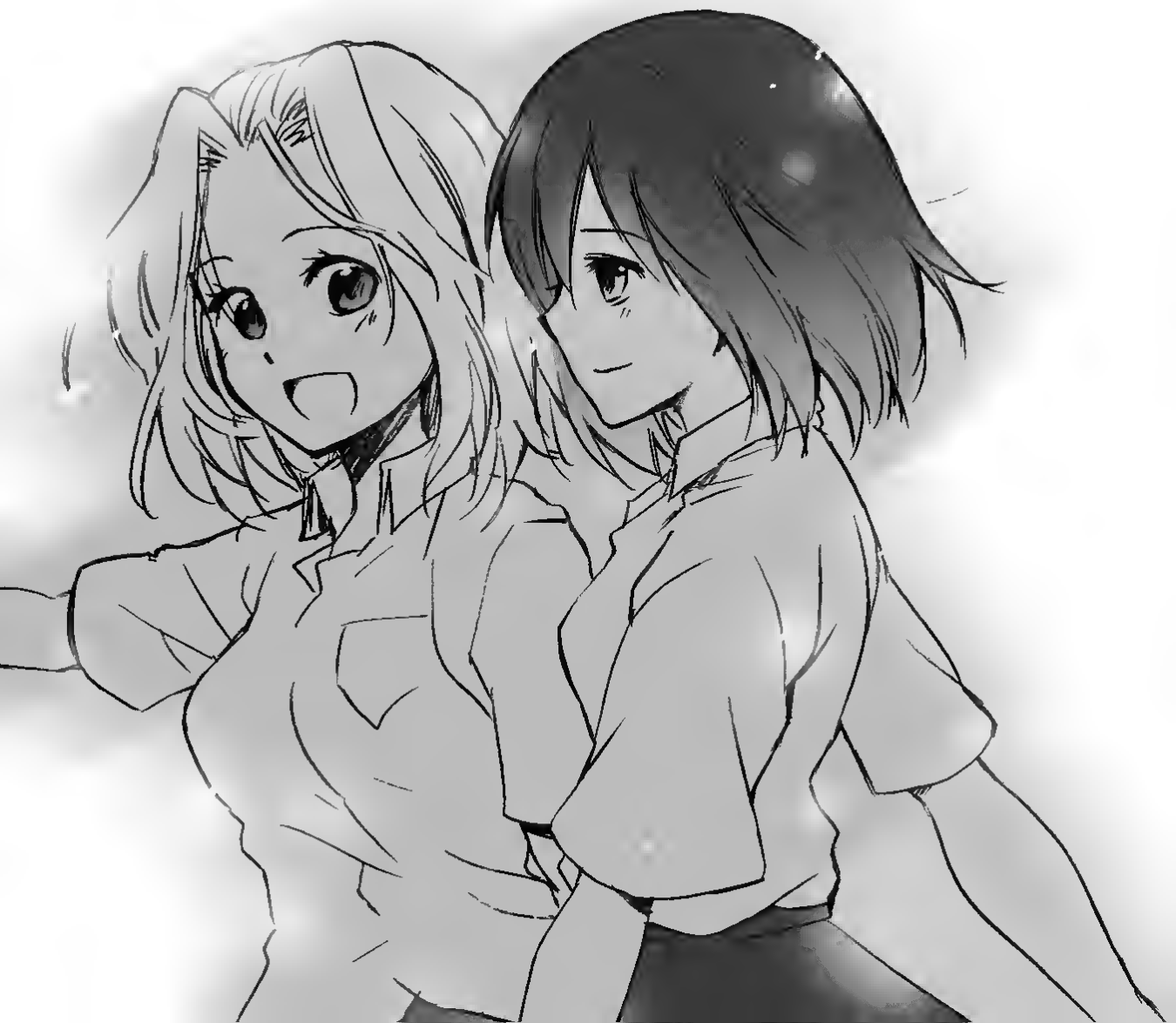
Since that day, all along...



Manager.

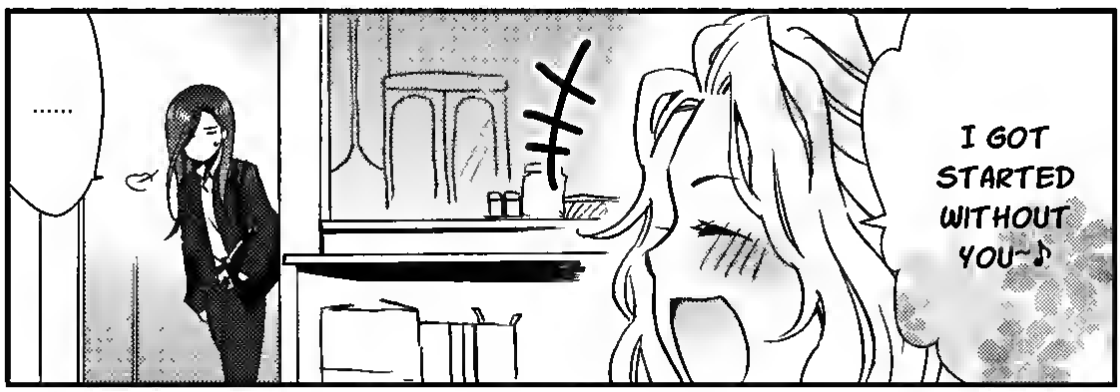
chatter
chatter
chatter
ANOTHER?
AREN'T YOU ALL FORGETTING WE HAVE WORK TOMORROW?
We didn't forget!
But this is more important! You almost never come with us
We wanna drink with you some more!
you...
HooRay!
FINE... JUST ONE MORE DRINK, OKAY?
EEEH!?
SOMEONE'S CALLED FOR ME, SO THIS IS IT FOR TONIGHT, OKAY?
...I'M SORRY
SAKI AI
WHERE SHOULD WE GO?
SINCE WE FINALLY GET TO BRING THE MANAGER ALONG...

Is it your boyfriend?

NO WAY.
A FRIEND.

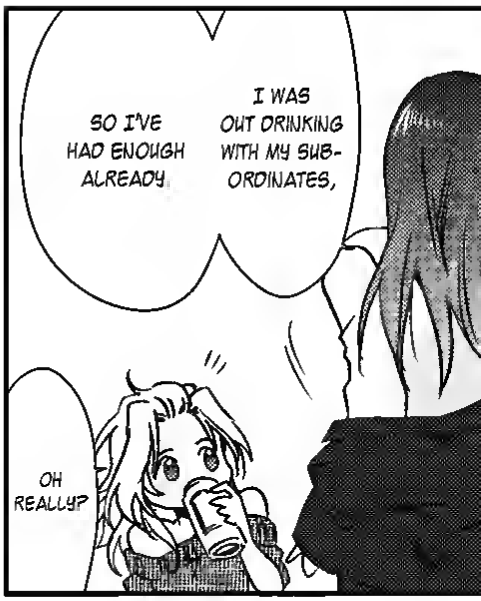
"A friend."
That's right.
Good work today!
Right~

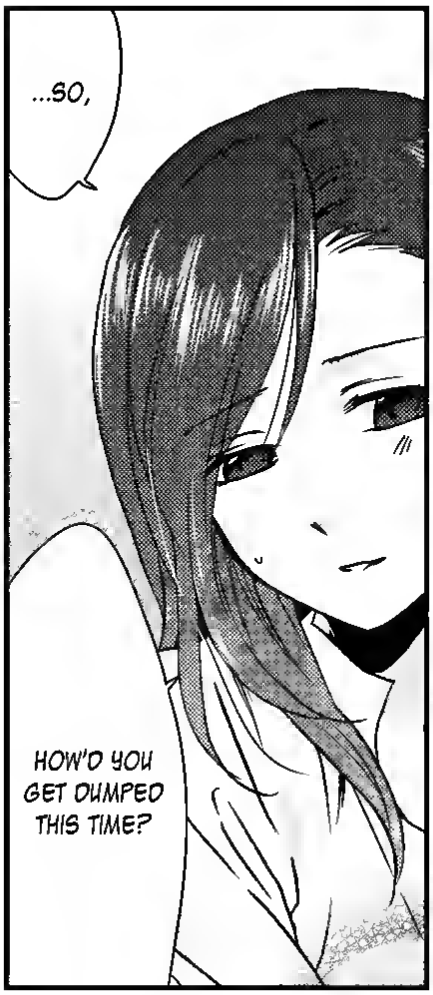
Yuuko, welcome!
My very important,
precious friend-


.....
I GOT STARTED WITHOUT YOU~♪

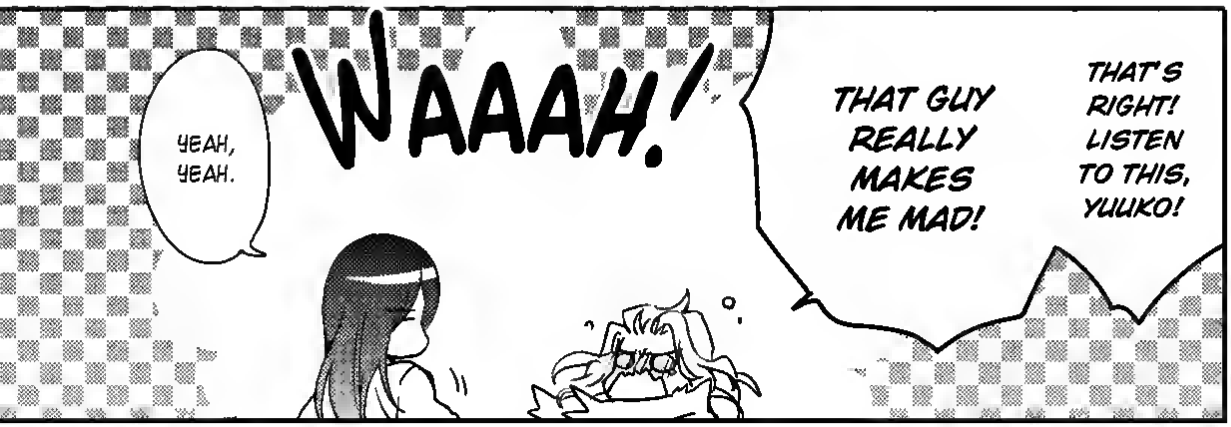
!!!!
YOU'RE DRENCHED WITH SWEAT.
YOU MUST'VE RAN ALL THE WAY HERE.
Ehe
Ehe

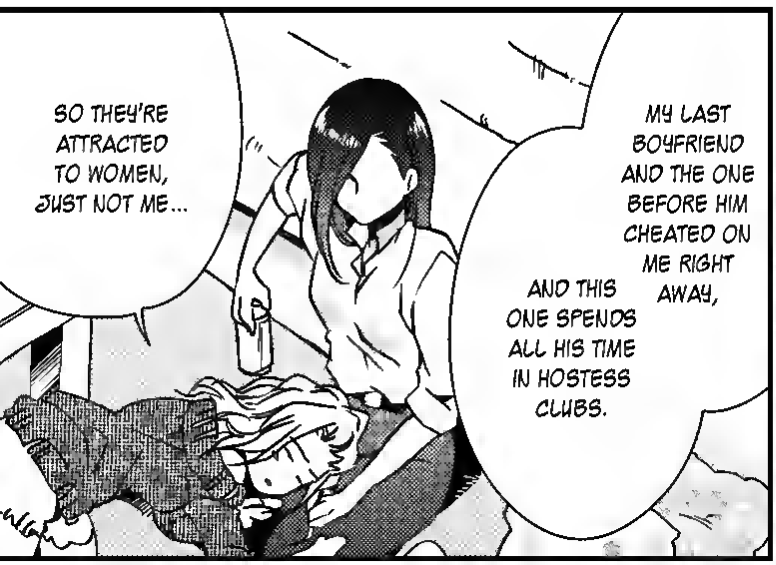
SLIDE
MY BAD~ BECAUSE OF ME,


I WAS OUT DRINKING WITH MY SUB-ORDINATES,
SO I'VE HAD ENOUGH ALREADY
OH REALLY?

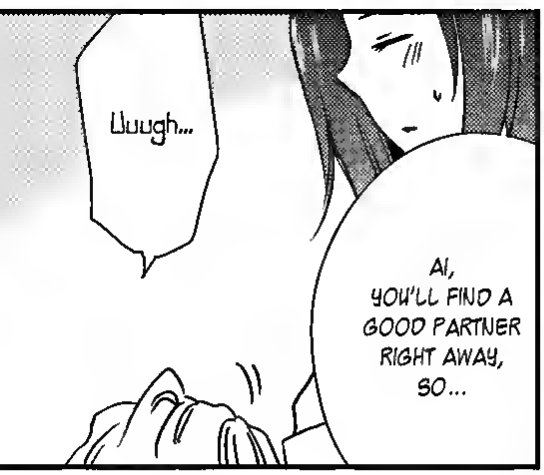

...SO,
HOW'D YOU GET DUMPED THIS TIME?

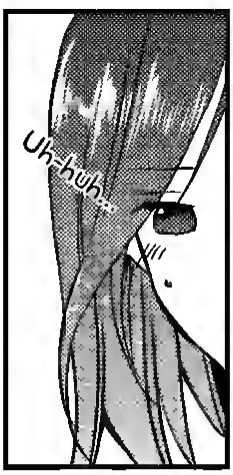
EHEHE...
THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU, YUUKO.


WAAAH!
YEAH, YEAH.
THAT GUY REALLY MAKES ME MAD!
THAT'S RIGHT! LISTEN TO THIS, YUUKO!


SO THEY'RE ATTRACTED TO WOMEN, JUST NOT ME...
MY LAST BOYFRIEND AND THE ONE BEFORE HIM CHEATED ON ME RIGHT AWAY,
AND THIS ONE SPENDS ALL HIS TIME IN HOSTESS CLUBS.

BASICALLY,
HE SAID I DON'T HAVE ANY SEX APPEAL, YOU KNOW?


Uuugh...
AI, YOU'LL FIND A GOOD PARTNER RIGHT AWAY, SO...


Uh-huh...

...WHAT I WANT
IS BE IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH MY SOULMATE.

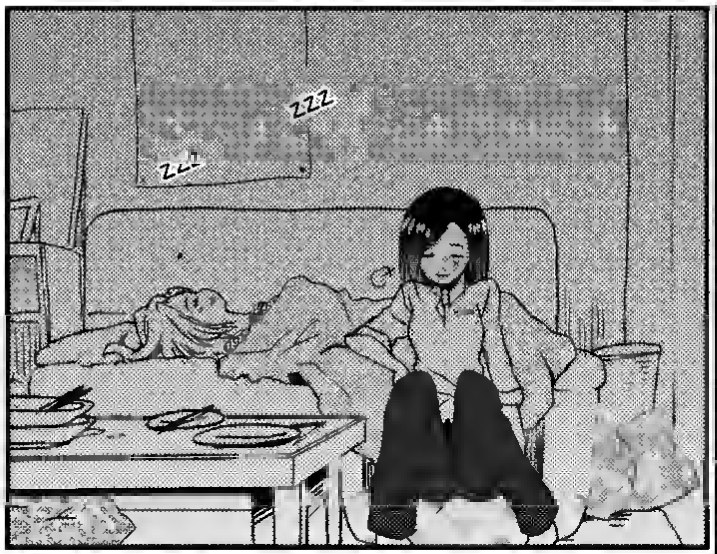
MY ONLY WISH
IS TO FIND HAPPINESS WITH MY FATED PARTNER.
...UMM, YOU AREN'T A CHILD ANYMORE.
WHAT?
I'M SURE EVEN YOU WANT TO MEET YOUR SOULMATE!

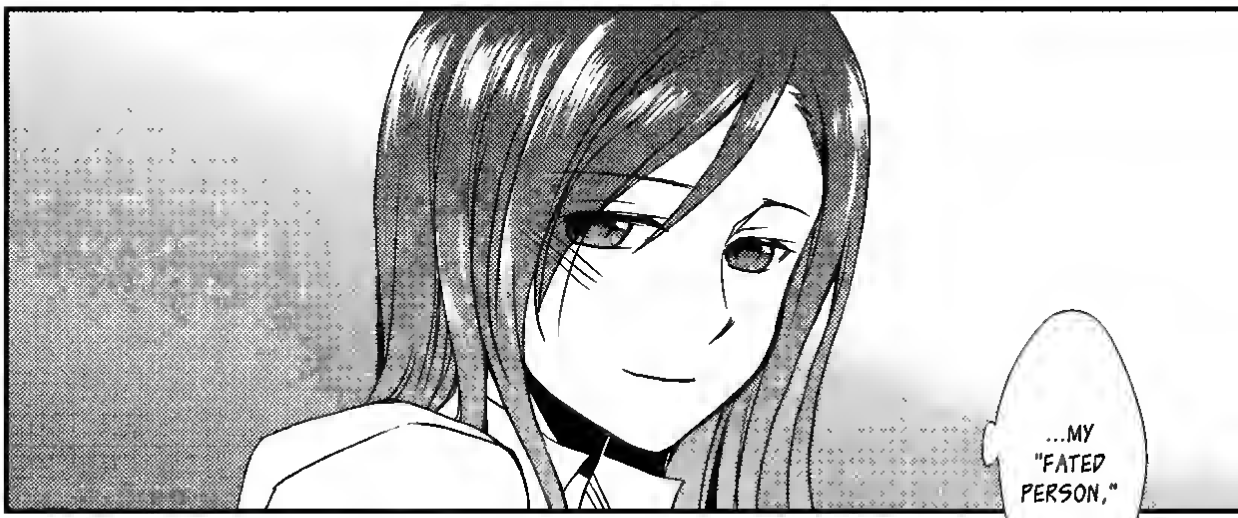
BUT...
THE TRUTH IS,
I'M PRETTY SURE I'VE ALREADY MET MY SOULMATE.
.....
OF COURSE.

JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE YOUR FATED PERSON
DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN YOU'LL BE IN A RELATIONSHIP... OR SO I'D SAY
?
.....
HYPOTHETICALLY SPEAKING,
EH! WHAT?! YUUKO-
YOU'RE REALLY SEEING SOMEONE ALREADY...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I SAID.
SHOCK

I DON'T WANT THAT!
THAT'S NOT WHAT "SOULMATE" MEANS!
.....
Y-YOU THINK SO?
FOR THEM TO BE YOUR SOULMATE, YOUR FEELINGS MUST ALWAYS BE SHARED.
WITHOUT THAT CONNECTION, THERE'S NO POINT!

...WELL,
IF YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT, THEN I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...





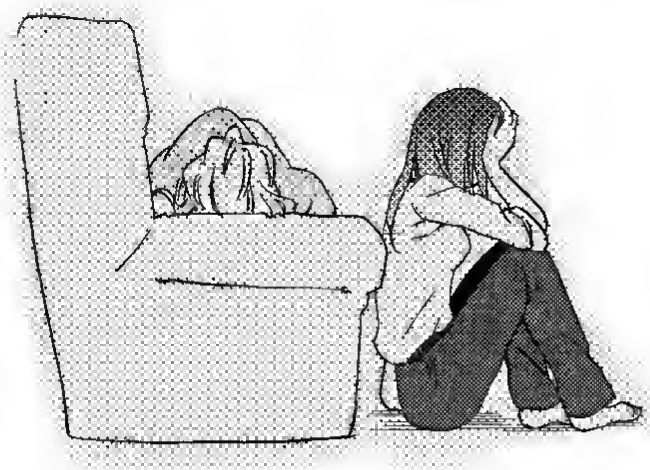
It's already been 10 years since I met Ai.

"It's fine to love someone of the same sex."
Ten years ago,
"Yuuko, whoever you fall in love with,"
"I'll still really like you..."
My life was changed.
With those few words from Ai, I was saved.

Because of that,
I think of you as
my fated person.

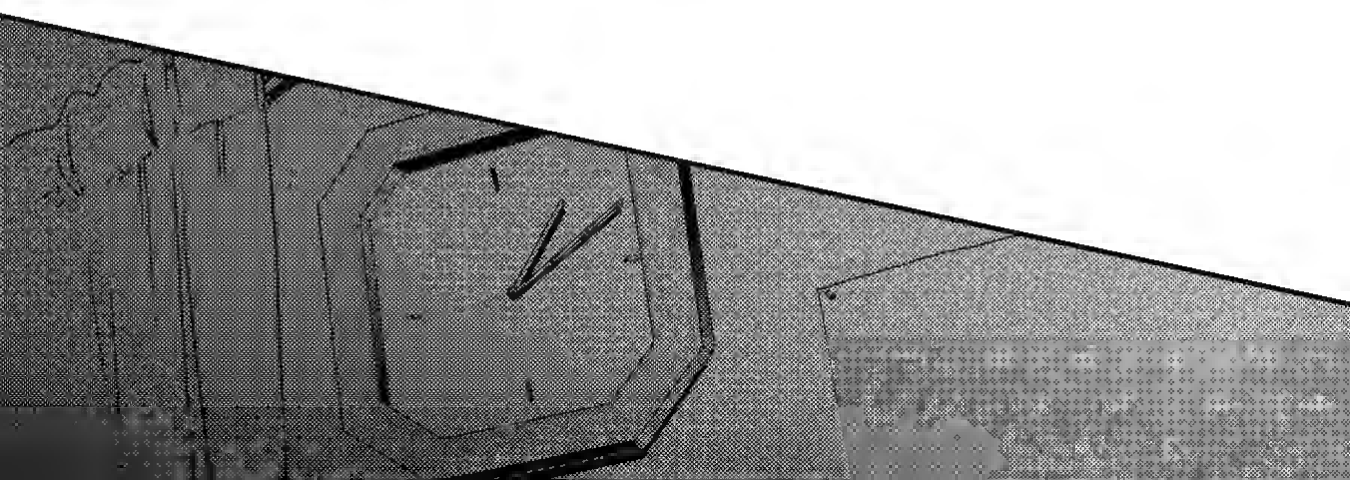
I want to
run to your side
when you're having
a hard time.

I want to
hold you close
and comfort you
as we cry
together.



Even if our relationship isn't something like marriage, even if our feelings aren't the same,
...I
WILL STILL...

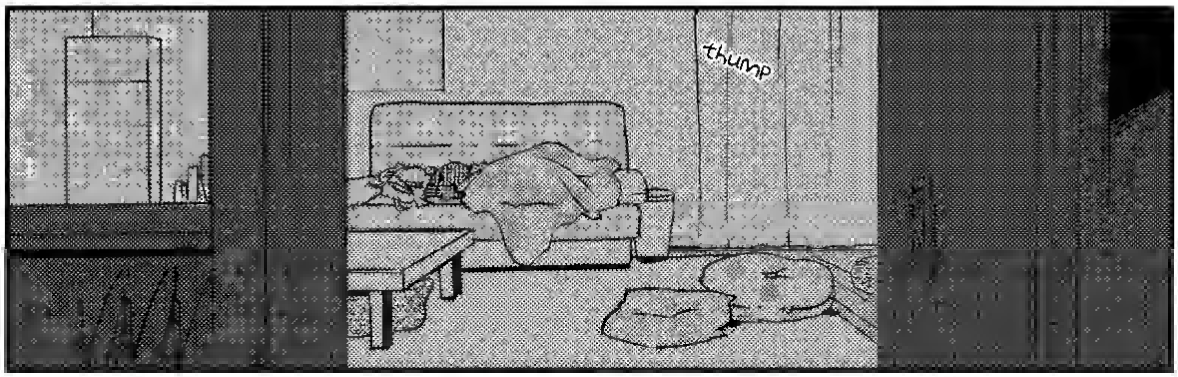
Always, always, love you.

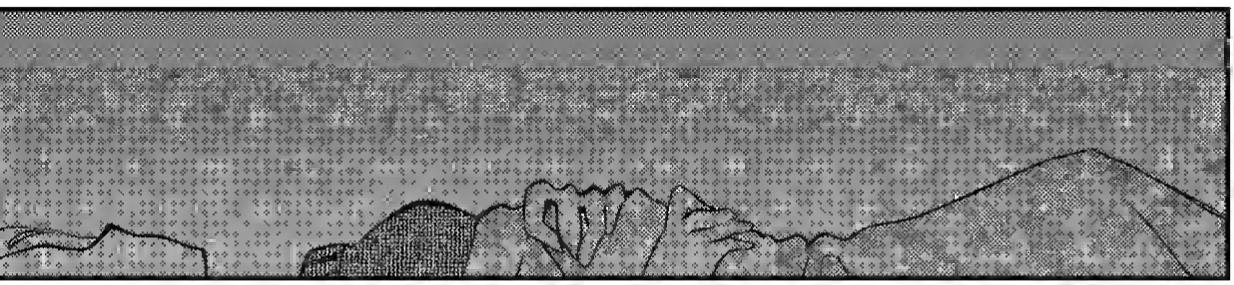


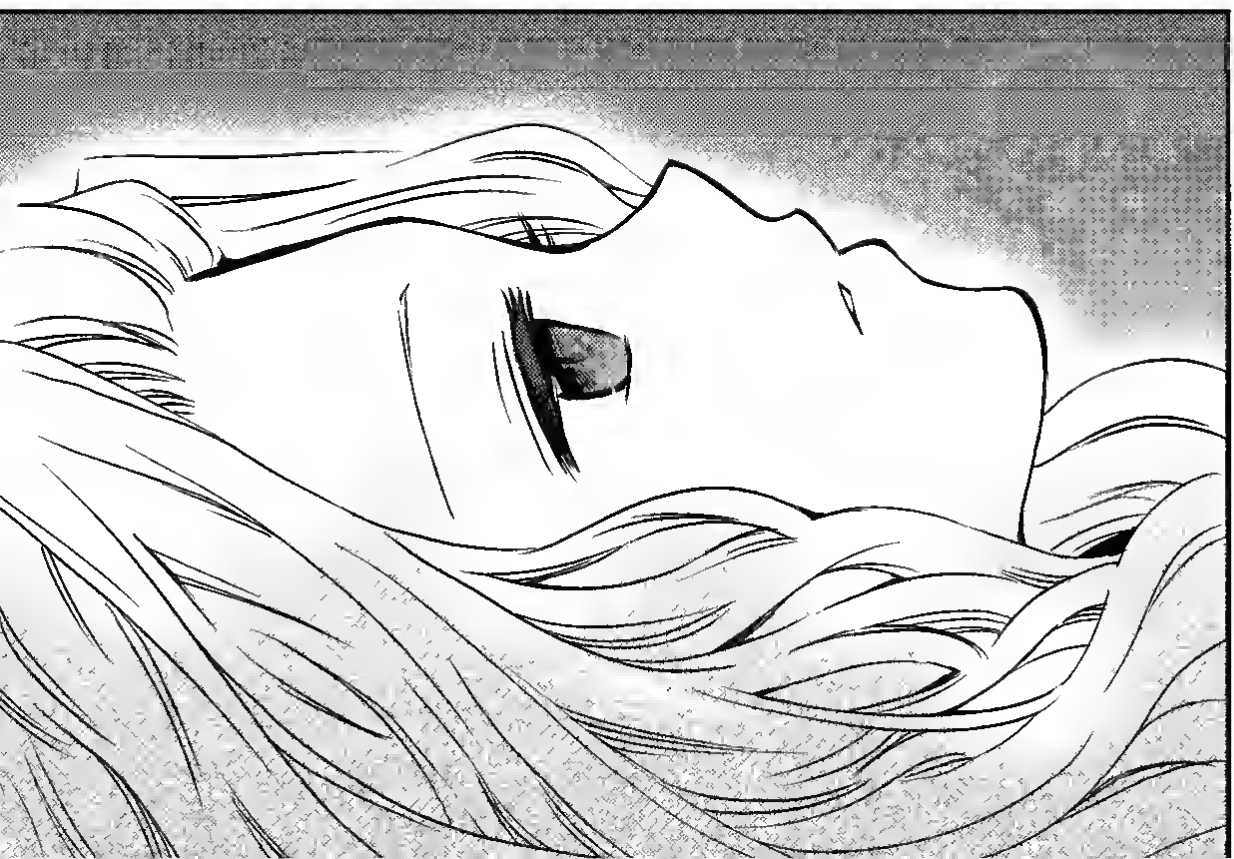
.....
MN...
snuggle
snuggle
Hana's breakfast
Yuuko
zzz

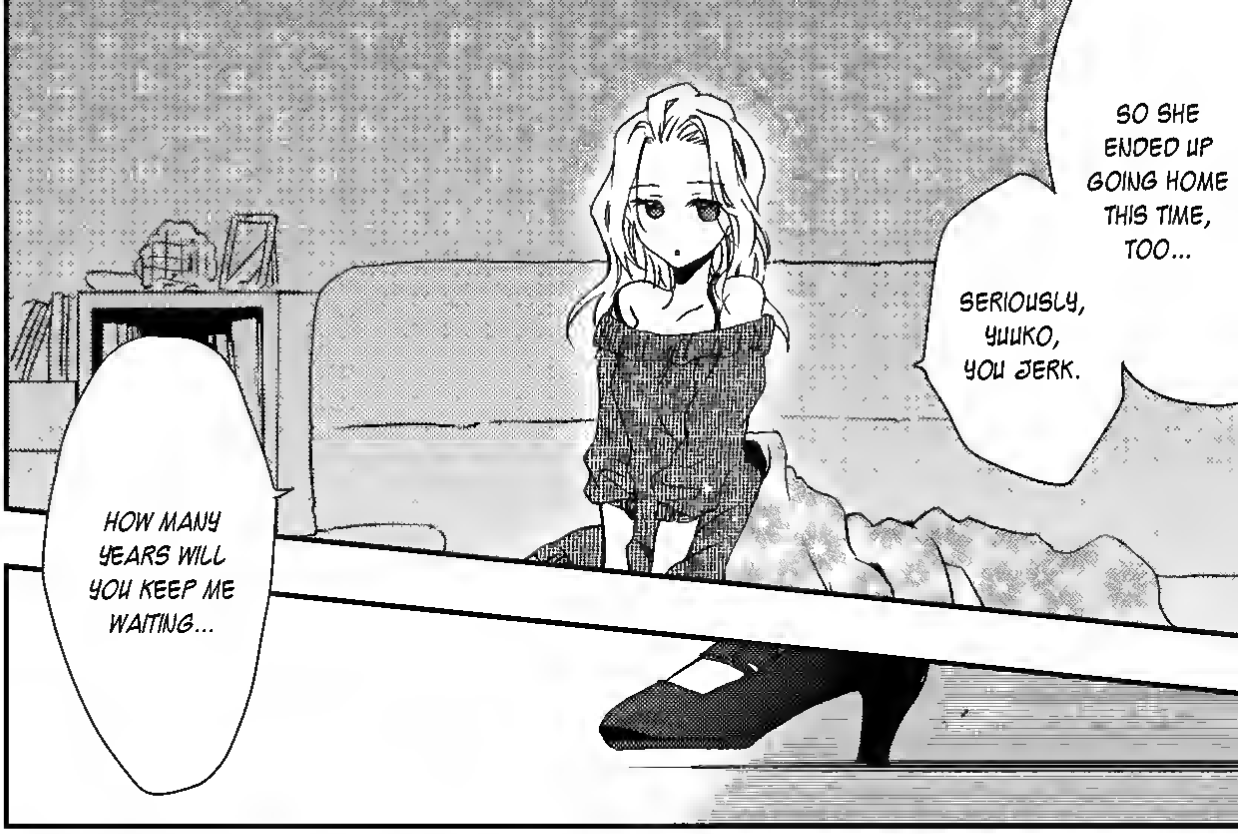
tap
tap
clank

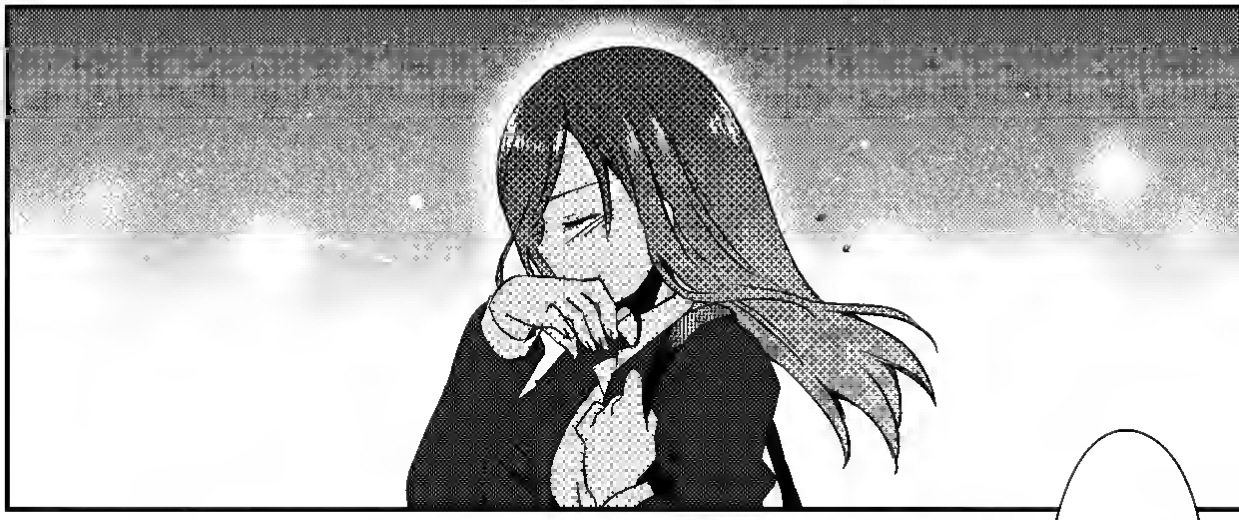
thump
thump


thump



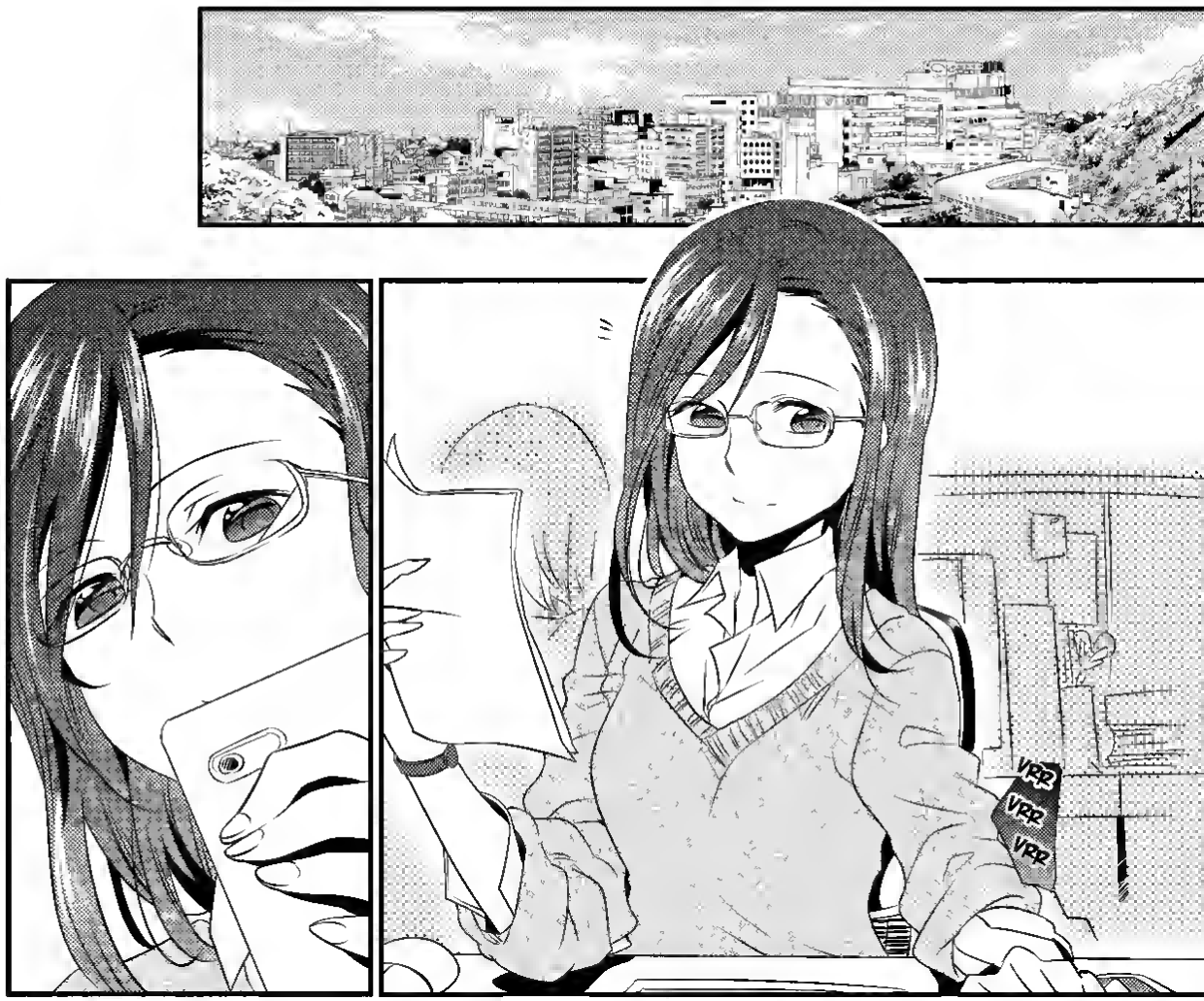



SO SHE ENDED UP GOING HOME THIS TIME, TOO...
SERIOUSLY, YUUKO, YOU JERK.
HOW MANY YEARS WILL YOU KEEP ME WAITING...



SHE ARBITRARILY CREATED THIS DISTANCE ON HER OWN
BECAUSE SHE'S COMPLETELY OBLIVIOUS...
EVEN THOUGH I KEEP TRYING TO ENTICE HER.

YUUKO, YOU IDIOT.
YOU'RE WAY TOO DENSE.
I want to
find happiness with you soon...


VRR
VRR
VRR

FROM: AI
sorry&thanks for yesterday! to make up for it, im inviting you to a special dinner, how about it©???
hint: yummy seafood restaurant

YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD, MANAGER.

SOMETHING NICE HAPPEN?

A LITTLE.

IT TURNS OUT I'M GOING OUT TONIGHT TO EAT SOMETHING DELICIOUS.

EEH, LUCKY YOU.

fin.

RAINBOW SECRET

BY RAKUJI TARAHI

You Are Mine

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